



## IMAGES IN INTENSIVE MEDICINE

### Acute aortic syndrome and cardiogenic shock, beyond radiological diagnosis



### Síndrome aórtico agudo y shock cardiogénico, más allá del diagnóstico radiológico

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Image 1

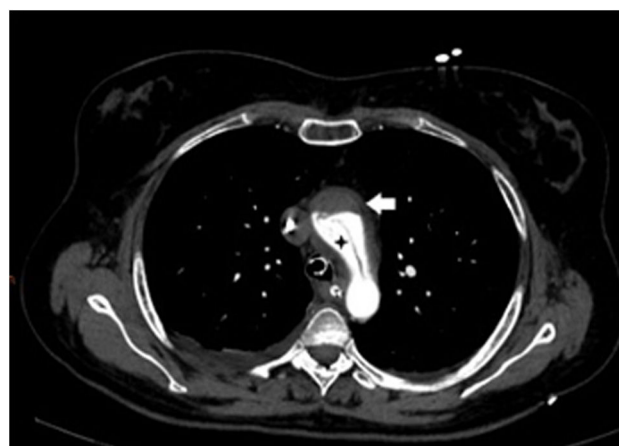


Image 2

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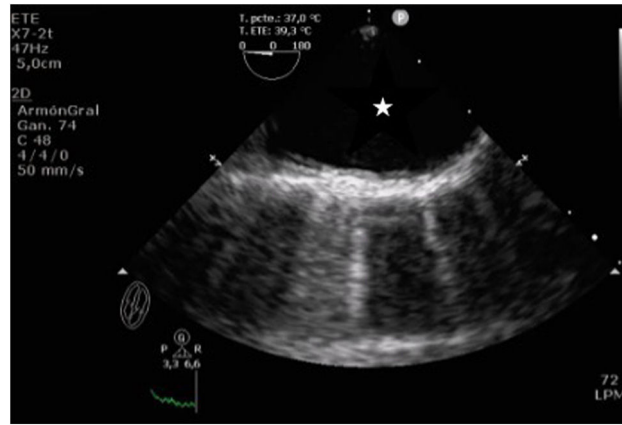


Image 3

A patient is admitted to the hospital for an acute coronary syndrome complicated by a ventricular septal defect (VSD). Initially, treatment was performed with primary angioplasty and surgical correction of the VSD. During the procedure, the patient developed cardiogenic shock, requiring an intra-aortic balloon pump and a VA-ECMO. The VSD persisted despite treatment, leading to a heart transplant recommendation at a referral center. Prior to this, a CTA (computed tomography angiography) revealed an image consistent with an ascending aortic dissection ([Images 1 and 2](#)), resulting in the transplant being deferred. After reviewing the images at the transplant center, the aortic dissection was ruled out following assessment by transesophageal echocardiography of the aortic arch ([Image 3](#)), determining that the image was due to the confluence of ECMO flows, which eventually allowed the transplant to be performed.